

AN
ACCOUNT
OF THE
SOCIETY
FOR PROMOTING
RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE,
AMONG THE
POOR.

L O N D O N:

Printed by JOHN WARD, in *Cornhill*, Bookseller
to the SOCIETY.

M.DCC.LIX.

A. C. C. O. R.

OF THE

S. O. C. I. E. T. Y.

R. O. C. K. E. T.

P. O. R.

1. O. C. C. O. R.

Journal of the Society of the Friends of the American People

1847



An Account of the Design of the SOCIETY,

For Promoting Religious Knowledge
among the Poor.



WHOEVER believes the Bible to be a revelation from God, and that the matter it contains is not only highly worthy of that infinitely great and blessed Being to deliver, but of the last importance both to the temporal and spiritual interests of mankind, will not want any farther arguments to convince him of the obligations he is under, first to receive it with the greatest reverence, affection, and gratitude himself; and then to propagate the knowledge and belief of it among others. And, indeed, who that hath tasted the sweetness, and felt the salutary refreshment of the fountain of life, but must be willing to convey its living waters to others, that those who need the same sacred advantages, may drink of the same heavenly streams, be quickened, purified, and comforted by them, and live for ever?

Those who have made any serious observations upon mankind, cannot be insensible of the deplorable ignorance that, even in this land of light, is to be found among the poorer sort, especially in the country, for want of the pro-

per means of information and knowledge; and that the numbers of those are great, who, notwithstanding the various assistances, that have, from time to time, been communicated for their instruction and improvement, yet very much want, in this instance, the farther aids of Christian piety and benevolence.

Animated, they trust, in some degree by these motives, and to remove, as far as they can, these unhappy disadvantages, which so many of our poor labour under, several persons have entered into a Society and Subscription to distribute the sacred Scriptures, and other good books amongst them, as one of the most effectual methods, in their apprehension, under the blessing of GOD, to bring them acquainted with the truth as it is in JESUS, and render them wise to salvation.

As hereby many necessitous families, who are unable to purchase these helps themselves, will be kindly supplied with them by the bounty of others; so, it will not be the least part of the blessing, that the rising generation among them will be furnished with such books, as are best suited to their tender years: by means of which it is to be hoped that, under the divine influence, the tendencies of corrupt nature may receive a timely check, and the powerful influences of vicious examples, in these sinful times, be more effectually guarded against, their future perversion from the principles of the Protestant Religion to the errors and corruptions of Popery be happily prevented, and their precious souls be early seasoned with a lasting tincture of piety and virtue. And if such are esteemed, and indeed with good reason, their generous benefactors, who kindly assist them in providing food and raiment for their bodies; that friendship surely cannot be less valuable, which provides them with that pure raiment, which is necessary to clothe their minds, and furnishes them with the living bread from heaven, in order to nourish them up in the divine life, and secure them the possession of immortal blessedness and glory.

As these considerations will without doubt, recommend the attempt of the ministers and gentlemen who have entered into this design, to the approbation of all good men; so it is to be hoped, especially as it is wholly void of all party views, that it will engage many, of every
Christian

Christian denomination among us, who truly fear GOD, love the Protestant Religion and Liberties, and wish well to immortal souls, to countenance, encourage, and promote it.



RULES of the SOCIETY

For promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor.

- I. **T**HAT the design of the Society is, to distribute Bibles, Testaments, and other good books, which may be judged useful, *gratis*, among the poor; and particularly to send such books to such ministers and gentlemen in the country, as the Society may have reason to believe will faithfully distribute them among those that most need them, and may be most likely to improve them.
- II. That this charity be carried on by a quarterly subscription of the members, and such other contributions, as well disposed christians may assist the Society with from time to time.
- III. That every Subscriber be desired to attend the meetings of the Society, and shall have the liberty, in his turn, to direct the disposal of as many books as the Society shall think proper.
- IV. That when books are sent down to any minister or gentleman in the country, it will be expected from him, that he shall acknowledge the receipt of them; and that the account be delivered to the secretary, by the person that recommended him.
- V. That no books be received into as gifts, or purchased to be given away by the Society, without the *unanimous* consent of the members thereof at their quarterly Meetings.

Those

Those who are willing to encourage this design, are desired to send their contributions to either of the gentlemen undermentioned.

The Reverend Dr. CHANDLER, Old-Jewry,
 The Reverend Mr. STENNET, Hatton-Garden,
 The Reverend Mr. GIBBONS, Hoxton-square,
 The Reverend Mr. THOMPSON, St. Mary-Axe,
 Mr. BENJ. FORFITT, Leadenhall-street,
 Mr. EDWARD NICKLIN, in the Cloisters, Smithfield,
 Mr. THOMAS HOLMES, Newgate-street,
 Mr. JOHN WARD, Cornhill.



A LIST of the SUBSCRIBERS.

Time of
Admission

A

- 1750 Mr William Adkins
 1751 Mr Latham Arnold
 Mifs Ashhurst, *dec.*
 1752 Mr Joseph Austin, *Kidderminster, Worcestershire*
 1753 Mr William Adams
 1754 Mr Thomas Adderley
 Mr John Atkins
 1755 Mrs Eliz. Abney, *Stoke-Newington*
 Rev. Caleb Ashworth, *Daventry, Northamptonshire*
 1756 Mr Emanuel Austin
 1758 Mr Henry Adams
 1759 Mr Isaac Appelby

B

- 1750 Mr John Bond
 1751 Mr Edward Barnard
 Mr James Buckland
 Mr Bailey Brett, *West-Bromwich, Staffordshire, dec.*
 Mr Frederick Bull
 Mr George Baskerville
 Rev. Samuel Brewer
 1752 Mr Charles Buxton
 Mr Samuel Bates, *Stourbridge, Worcestershire, dec.*
 Mr John Barnard, *Colchester, Essex.*
 1754 Mr Elias Brownsword
 1755 Mr Miles Burkitt
 Mr Wright Burkitt
 Mr Joseph Burch
 1756 Stamp Brooksbank, *Hackney, Esq; dec.*
 Mr Jonathan Bond
 Col. Nathaniel Barnwell, *Beaufort, South-Carolina*
 Mr John Barnwell, *ditto*
 1757 Joseph Brooksbank, *Hackney, Esq; dec.*
 Mr Samuel Balfon
 Mr Diederick Beckman
 Mr James Buttall
 Mr James Brewer, *Saxmundham, Suffolk*

Rev.

Time of
Admission

- 1757 Rev. Thomas Biddulph, *Ledbury, Herefordshire*
 Mr John Billingsley, *Ashwich, Somersetshire*
 Mr John Bradney
 Mr Samuel Beard
 Mr George Bond, *Clapham*
- 1758 Mr Eben. Blackwell
 Mr Benjamin Bucknall
 Mr Thomas Bentley
 Rev. Mr Burton, *Ravingstone, near Olney, Bucks*
 Mr John Bull, *Bristol*
 Mr Francis Bull, *ditto*
 Mr Barnardiston, *Islington*
- 1759 Mr Isaac Buxton
 Mr Guy Bryan
 Mrs Burward, *Peckham*
 Mr Jonathan Badger, *Charles-Town, South-Carolina*
 Mr John Barnard, *Ipswich, Suffolk*

C

- 1750 Mr Henry Cockerill
 Mr Elkanah Crompton, *dec.*
 Mr Samuel Clay
 Rev. Dr. Chandler
- 1751 Mr Robert Cruttenden
 Mr John Crompton, *Bolton, Lancashire*
 Mr William Coe, *Bruntwood, Essex*
 Mr Abraham Coles, *St. Albans, Hertfordshire*
 Mr Robert Cliffe
 Mr Thomas Cox
 Mr Joseph Cruttenden
- 1752 Mr John Creswell, *Stourbridge, Worcestershire*
- 1753 Mr John Coape
- 1754 Mr William Cromwell
 Mr Curry, *Poplar, Middlesex*
 Mr James Cox
 Capt. Alexander Clunie
- 1755 Mr Benjamin Cowley
 Mr John Cole, *Taunton, Somersetshire*
- 1757 Mrs Rebecca Conder, *Hackney*
 Mr Charles Carleton
 Mr Zechariah Carleton
 Mr Richard Canham, *Stony-Stratford, Bucks*

Time of
Admission

- 1757 Mr Joseph Cowper
Mr Nicholas Crisp
1758 Mr William Carter
Mrs Churchill, *Northampton*
1759 Rev. John Conder, *Mile-end*
Mr John Crocker
Mr Gideon Costin
Mr Jasper Clarke
Mr Richard Cooper, *Bewdley, Worcestershire*

D

- 1751 Mr John Davis
Rev. Dr Dodderidge, *Northampton, dec;*
1752 Mrs De Berdt
1754 Mr Edward Davenhill
Rev. Samuel Davies, *Hanover, Virginia*
1755 Mr William Dawe
1756 Rev. Mr Davison, *Bocking, Essex*
1757 Henry Dowler, Esq; *Bromsgrove, Worcestershire*
1758 Mr George Davys, sen. *Forton, Devon*
1759 Capt. Tſcharuer de Graffenriedt, *Lunenburg, Virginia*
Mr Joseph Dudds
Mr George Davies, *Birmingham*
Thomas Dawson, *M. D. Hackney*

E

- 1754 Mr William Escutt
1755 Mr John Ellicott
Mr Edward Ellicott
Mr John Eldridge, *Yarmouth, Norfolk*
1756 Rev. James Edmonds, *Charles-Town, South-Carolina*
1757 Mr Thomas Eckley, *Tupſley, near Hereford*
1758 Mr James Eſdale
Mr John Edwards, *Charles-Town, South-Carolina*
Mr Richard Eaglestone *Amelia County, Virginia*
1759 Mr Samuel Etheridge
Mr John Emmott

Time of
Admission

F

- 1750 Mr Benjamin Forfitt
Mr Joseph Forfitt
Mr John Finch, *Dudley, Worcestershire, dec.*
- 1752 Mr John Field
- 1753 Rev. Philip Furneaux, *Clapham*
- 1754 Mr Joseph Flight
Mr Thomas Forfitt
Mr Thomas Field
- 1755 Rev. Mr Farmer, *Walhamstow, Essex*
- 1756 Mr Thomas Fletcher
Mr William Fuller
- 1757 Mr William Fell
Mr Thomas Fletcher
- 1758 Rev. Bernard Fosket, *Bristol, dec.*
Rev. William Ford, jun.
Mr Thomas Powell
- 1759 Mr Thomas Fuller
Rev. William Ford, sen. *Castle Hedingham, Essex*

G

- 1750 Mr Henry Grew
Rev. Thomas Gibbons, *Hoxton*
Mr Samuel Goadby
- 1751 Mr Guilford Gibson
Mrs Hannah Gibson
- 1752 Robert Grosvenor, Esq; *dec.*
Robert Grosvenor, Esq;
Mr William Guyther
Rev. Dr Guyse
Mr Edward Grubb
Mr William Grace
Mr Henry Girle
- 1754 Mr Samuel Grace
Mr Robert Goadby, *Sherborne, Dorsetshire*
- 1755 Mr Frederick Gibson
Mr Jacob Glover, *Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire*
Mr Nathaniel Green
Mr William Gardner
- 1756 Mrs Gibbons, *Highgate*

Mr

Time of
Admission

- 1756 Mr William Gines
Mr John Gainsborough, *Sudbury, Suffolk*
Rev. Joseph Gregg, *St. Alban's, Hertfordshire*
1757 John Gibson, Esq;
Mr Daniel Gallopine
Mr John Gilbert
1759 Mr John Gould
Mr Piercy Grove, *Camden, Gloucestershire*

H

- 1751 Mr Thomas Holmes
Mr James Harriott
Mr Joseph Hopkins, *dec.*
Rev. Dr Hughes, *dec.*
1752 Mr John Hood, *dec.*
Rev. James Hervey, *Weston Favell, Northamptonshire,*
deceased
Mr Henry Hall
Mr Woodyat Hodges
1753 Mr Joseph Hawkins, *Hackney*
Rev. John Halford
1755 Mr George Harriott, *Rochford, Essex*
Rev. Samuel Hayward, *dec.*
Rev. William Hunt, *Hackney*
1756 John Hopkins, *Brittens, Essex, Esq;*
Rev. William Hutson, *Charles-Town, South-Carolina*
Mr John Hoddesden, *ditto*
Mr Phillip Hillier
1757 Mr Thomas Hunt
Charles Hardy, Esq;
Herman Heineken, M.D.
1758 Mr Joseph Hurt
Mr William Hunter
Mr Benjamin Humphrys, *Bromsgrove, Worcestershire*
Thomas Hall, *Harpsden-Court, near Henley, Oxon, Esq;*
Mr Isaac Holmes, *Charles-Town, South-Carolina*
Mr David Holt, *Petersburg, Virginia*
Mr John Harris, *Bristol*
Captain John Hunter, *Albemarle, Virginia*
Mr Benjamin Howard, *Bedford, Virginia*
Rev. Thomas Hawies, *Oxford*

Captain

Time of
Admission

- 1759 Captain Nathaniel Hancock
John Howard, Esq; *Watcomb-House, near Lymington, Hants.*
Mr Abel Humphrys, *Birmingham*
Mr Thomas Hurst, *Hinckley, Leicestershire*
Mr Owen Hall, *Reading, Berkshire*
Rev. William Henry Hallam, *Stambourne, Essex*

I

- 1750 Mr Edward Johnson
1751 Mr Arthur Jennings
1753 Mr Robert Iony, *dec.*
Mr Benj. Johnson
Mr James Inglish
1754 Mr Samuel Jacobson
1755 Mr John Jackson
Mr Ebenezer Jeffries, *Taunton, Somersetshire*
Mr John Jackson
1758 Rev. Thomas Jones
Mr Jenkin Jones
Mr William Jacob
Mr Edward Jones, *Charles-Town, South Carolina*
Mr Nicholas Jackson
Mr John Johnson
1759 Mr John Jones, *Hackney*
Mrs Sarah Jocelyn, *Hide-Hall, Hertfordshire*
Mr John Jacob

K

- 1752 Mr William Kempe, *dec.*
Mr Robert Keene
1757 Rev. Andrew Kippis
1755 Mr Matthew Kitchiner
1756 Mr John Kennedy
1759 Mr Thomas Kirkbride

Mr

Time of
Admission

L

- 1750 Mr Edward Longden
 1751 Mr David Langton
 1752 Mr Thomas Lawrance
 Mr Samuel Lightfoot
 1754 Mrs Le Fevre, *dec. Bromley, near Bow*
 Mr Robert Lewin
 1755 Mr John Lewin, *Leicester*
 Mr Joseph Lomas
 Samuel Lessingham, Esq; *Hackney*
 1756 Mrs Lyde, *Cobbehead, near Bristol*
 Rev. William Langford
 1757 Mr Le Fevre, *Bromley, near Bow*
 Mr John Lowther, sen.
 Mr John Lowther, jun.
 1758 William Lateward, Esq; *Clapton, near Hackney*
 1759 Mr John Laurence
 Rev. Timothy Laugher

M

- 1754 Mr William Marston
 1757 Mr Samuel Moody
 1758 Mr William Mosely
 Mr Richard Morris
 Mr Joseph Mason, *Bristol*
 1759 Mr Peter Motteux
 Mr Robert Maitland
 Mr Thomas Mayor
 Mr John Moggridge
 Rev. Martin Madan
 Mr William Mallefon
 Mr Benjamin Mills

N

- 1750 Mr Edward Nicklin
 1751 Mrs Nesbit, *dec.*
 Mr John Nicklin, *dec.*
 1753 Mr Henry Nicholls, *Witham, Essex*

Mr

Time of
Admission

1757	Mr Thomas Nash	Admission
	Mrs Sarah Nicholas	
1758	Mr William Newsam, <i>Petersburg, Virginia</i>	1750
	<i>Mr David Langston</i>	1751
	<i>Mr Thomas Lawrence</i>	1752
	<i>Mr Samuel Lightfoot</i>	
	<i>Mrs Isaac Heave, near Boro</i>	1754
	<i>Mr Robert Lawin</i>	
1750	Mr Henry Overton	1752
1753	Mr John Oliver	
1758	Mr Thomas Overton	
	<i>Samuel Langham, M.D.</i>	
	<i>Mrs Lydia, near Boro</i>	1750
	<i>Rev. William Langston</i>	
	<i>Mr Isaac Heave, near Boro</i>	1752
	<i>Mr John Bowler, sen.</i>	
1751	Mr John Palmer, <i>dec.</i>	
1752	Rev. Edward Pickard	1752
	Rev. Samuel Price, <i>dec.</i>	1750
1755	Rev. Richard Pearfall, <i>Transton, Somersetshire</i>	
1756	Mr Benjamin Pewtrefs, jun.	
	Mr David Prudom, <i>Whitby, Yorkshire</i>	
	Rev. Mr Pearce, <i>Stanton Wick, near Bristol</i>	
	Rev. William Porter	
1757	Mr John Pullen	
	Mr Joseph Pearce	1754
	Mrs Planner	1752
1758	Mr James Pearson	1752
	Mr William Pickett	
	Mr Henry Peronneau, <i>Charles-Town, South-Carolina</i>	
	Mr George Peacock, <i>Taunton, Somersetshire</i>	
1759	Mr Freeman Prentice	
	<i>Mr Thomas Maynor</i>	
	<i>Mr John Maynor</i>	
	<i>Rev. Martin Maynor</i>	
	<i>Mr William Maynor</i>	
	<i>Mr Benjamin Mills</i>	
1751	Rev. John Richardson	
	Rev. Richard Rawlin, <i>dec.</i>	
	Mr John Rutt, <i>dec.</i>	
	Mr John Rogers	
1752	Mr Lomax Ryder	1750
	Mrs Mary Rodes, <i>Leeds, Yorkshire</i>	1751
1754	Mr Henry Rutt	
	Mr John Reymes, <i>Norwich</i>	
	Mr George Rutt	

Rev.

Time of
Admission

- 1755 Rev. William Richardson, *Virginia*
 1756 Mr Nathaniel Roberts, *Abingdon, Berks*
 Mr Josiah Roberts
 1757 Mr William Rawlings, *St Colamb, Cornwall*
 1758 Mr Thomas Roome
 Mr Thomas Rossiter
 Mr Charles Runnington
 Mr John Richards
 Mr John Roberts
 Mrs Mary Rogers
 Rev. Thomas Ryland, *Warwick*
 1759 Rev. Nehemiah Ring
 Mr David Rivers
 Mr Samuel Rickards
 Mr Charles Rogers

S

- 1750 Mr Samuel Sheafe
 Mr John Stackhouse Styles
 Mr Robert Shelley
 Rev. Dr Stennett, *dec.*
 Mr Thomas Scott, *Kingston, Surry, dec.*
 1751 Rev. Samuel Stennett
 Mr John Stamford, *dec.*
 Mr John Seagrave
 Mr Samuel Sparrow
 1752 Mr Joseph South
 Mr William Stanton
 Mrs Rachael Spellerberg, *Hackney*
 1753 Mr Robert Stewart
 Mr Nathaniel Sheffield
 1754 Mr Samuel Savage
 1755 Mr Benjamin Sabbarton
 Rev. Samuel Saunderfon, *Bedford*
 Mr Jonathan Stonard, *Barton-Hall, Essex*
 1756 Mr James Smith
 1757 Mrs Stennett, *Hempstead, Hertfordshire*
 Dr Hugh Smith
 Rev. Edward Smith
 Mr John Sanderfon, *Welch Whittle, Lancashire*
 Rev. L. M. Stretch, *Campden, Gloucestershire*

Mr

Time of
Admission

- 1758 Mr John Seaber
Mr William Snell, *dec.*
Mr George Skinner, *Taunton, Somersetshire*
Mr Thomas Simms,
1759 Mr John Scott, *Birmingham*
Mr Jabez Smith

T

- 1750 Mr Samuel Taylor
1751 Rev. Josiah Thompson
Mr Thomas Tredway
Mr Thomas Tyndale
1752 Rev. Thomas Towle, *Stoke-Newington*
Mr John Tozer
Mr Robert Turner, *dec.*
1753 Mrs Sufannah Tiffin
1754 Mr John Toms, *dec.*
Mr Aaron Tozer, *Newton-Abbat, Devonshire*
1755 Mr Benjamin Tomkins
1756 Mr Richard Tunnard, *Frampton, Lincolnshire*
1748 Mr William Theed
Josiah Turton, Esq; *Oldbury, near Dudley, Worcester-
shire*
1759 Mr Robert Thomas, *Hanover, Monmouthshire*

U

- 1751 Mr John Uffington
1756 Mrs Mary Unwin, *Castle Hedingham, Essex*

V

- 1753 Rev. Henry Venn

Time of
Admission

- 1750 Mr Stephen Wilfon
Mr John Ward of *Cornhill*
- 1751 Mrs Ann Wordsworth
Mr John Ward
- 1752 Mr Joseph Williams, *Kidderminster, Worcestershire*,
deceased
Mr Thomas West, *dec.*
Mrs West
Mrs Eliz. Wordsworth, *dec.*
Mr Stephen Williams
Mr John Wells, *Epsom, Surry*, *dec.*
Mrs Jane Woodcock, *Boston, Lincolnshire*
Mrs Anne Ward
Mr Obadiah Hughes Worsley, *Ware, Hertfordshire*
Mr Thomas Wellings
- 1754 Mr Reader Watts
Mr Timothy Wylde, *dec.*
Mr Richard Watts
Mr John Warren
- 1755 Mr Walter Watkins
Mr George Welch
Rev. John Wright, *Virginia*
Mr William Wallman, *Witham, Essex*
- 1756 Mr John Walton
Mr John Wainwright
Mr Thomas Wright
- 1757 Rev. George Whitefield
Mr Richard Wilson
Thomas Watson, *Esq;*
Mrs Lydia Whitaker
Mr John Westcott, *Taunton, Somersetshire*
Mr Richard Welles
- 1758 Mr Thomas Wilson
Mr George Wilkinfon
Mr William Woolcott, *Dartmouth, Devonshire*
Major John Woodson, *Lunenburg, Virginia*
Mr George Walton, *ditto*

Time of
Admission

1759 Mr Thomas Wild, *Hanover, Virginia*
 Mr Henry Whittle
 Mr Joseph Wood, *Nottingham*
 Mr William Weare
 Mrs Eliz. Wellman, *Taunton, Somersetshire*
 Isaac Wellman, Esq; *Poundsford, near Taunton*
 Mr Henry Wichells
 Mrs White
 Rev. Jervis Wylde, *Birmingham*



Occasional Contributions to the Society.

	£.	s.	d.
From August 8th 1750, to October 2d 1751	53	15	6
From October 2d 1751, to October 4th 1752	117	16	6
From October 4th 1752, to October 3d 1753	42	4	3
From October 3d 1753, to October 2d 1754	28	1	6
From October 2d 1754, to October 2d 1755	35	1	0
From October 2d 1755, to October 7th 1756	44	3	0
From October 7th 1756, to October 6th 1757	41	15	6
From October 9th 1757, to July 6th 1758	69	9	0

From July 6th 1758, to July 5th 1759.

	£.	s.	d.
July 20 Rev. Dr Chandler for Mr Harding } Tomkins	20	0	0
Mr Benjamin Forfit, for Mr Dorrington	1	1	0
Mr Thomas Bentley at admission	1	1	0
Rev. Mr Ryland ditto	1	1	0
Mr Nicholas Crisp ditto	1	1	0
Mr Peter Motteux ditto	2	2	0
The Collection at the Sermon	22	2	5
Rev. John Conder at admission	1	1	0
Rev. Nehemiah Ring ditto	1	1	0
Rev. William Ford, jun. ditto	1	1	0
Mr Sheafe, for the Rev. Mr Turnbull	0	11	0
Mr Thomas Fuller at admission	1	1	0
Mr Thomas Simms ditto	1	1	0
Mr Thomas Fowell ditto	1	1	0
Mr Freeman Prentice ditto	1	1	0
Mr Isaac Buxton ditto	1	1	0
Mr John Emmott ditto	1	1	0
Mr Joseph Wood ditto	1	1	0
Mr George Skinner ditto	1	1	0
Mr Josiah Peacock ditto	1	1	0
1759 John Howard, Esq; ditto	1	1	0
Mrs Elizabeth Wellman ditto	1	1	0
Mr Henry Whittle ditto	1	1	0
Mr John Crocker ditto	1	1	0
	65	15	5

Mr,

		£.	s.	d.
Mr Isaac Appleby	at admission	65	15	5
Isaac Wellman, Esq;	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Thomas Mayor	ditto	1	1	0
Mr William Wear	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Gideon Coffin	ditto	1	1	0
Ballance of the Stewards Accounts		2	2	0
Dr Lobb		1	1	0
Mrs Sarah Jocelyn	at admission	1	1	0
Mr Wilkinfon	ditto	1	1	0
The Legacy of Mr. Joseph Hopkins,	}	50	0	0
by Mr Joseph Marryatt, one of his				
Executor				
Mr Joseph Lomas, for Mr Planner		0	10	6
Mr John Johnson	at admission	1	1	0
Mr John Moggridge	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Guy Bryan	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Thomas Hurst	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Owen Hall	ditto	1	1	0
Rev. Jervis Wylde	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Henry Wichells	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Robert Thomas	ditto	1	1	0
Mr William Mallison	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Robert Maitland	ditto	1	1	0
Rev. William Ford, sen.	ditto	1	1	0
Capt. Nathaniel Hancock	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Samuel Rickards	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Joseph Dudds	ditto	1	1	0
Rev. Martin Madan	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Benjamin Mills	ditto	1	1	0
Mrs Burward	ditto	1	1	0
Mr Philip Taylor	ditto	1	1	0
		145	13	11

The State of the Society's Account from its beginning in *August 1750*, to *Michaelmas 1751*.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
To annual Subscriptions	60	17	9	By fundry Payments for Bibles, Testaments, and other Books	100	11	1
To occasional Contributions	53	15	6	By incidental Expences	3	1	0
				By Cash in Hand	11	1	2
	114	13	3		114	13	3

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas 1751*, to *Michaelmas 1752*.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
To annual Subscriptions received	120	0	0	By fundry Payments for Bibles, Testaments, and other Books	221	0	6
To occasional Gifts, &c.	117	16	6	By incidental Expences	8	19	8
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	11	1	2	By Cash in Hand	18	17	6
	248	17	8		248	17	8

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas 1752*, to *Michaelmas 1753*.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
To annual Subscriptions received	156	4	3	By fundry Payments for Bibles, Testaments, and other Books	211	3	6
To occasional Gifts, &c.	74	2	6	By incidental Expences	21	18	7
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	18	17	6	By Cash in Hand	16	2	2
	249	4	3		249	4	3

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas* 1753,
to *Michaelmas* 1754.

To annual Sub- scriptions re- ceived	£. s. d.	182 2 0	By sundry Pay- ments for Bi- bles, Testa- ments, and other Books	£. s. d.	189 8 10
To occasional Gifts, &c.	28 1 0		By incidental Expences	18 16 6	
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	16 2 2		By Cash in Hand	17 19 10	
		<u>226 5 2</u>			<u>226 5 2</u>

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas* 1754,
to *Michaelmas* 1755.

To annual Sub- scriptions re- ceived	£. s. d.	213 18 9	By sundry Pay- ments for Bi- bles, Testa- ments, and other Books	£. s. d.	202 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
To occasional Gifts, &c.	34 0 0		By incidental Expences	18 2 6	
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	17 19 10		By Cash in Hand	45 13 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
		<u>265 18 7</u>			<u>265 18 7</u>

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas* 1755,
to *Michaelmas* 1756.

To annual Sub- scriptions re- ceived	£. s. d.	250 10 0	By sundry Pay- ments for Bi- bles, Testa- ments, and other Books	£. s. d.	250 0 0
To occasional Gifts, &c.	44 3 0		By incidental Expences	34 15 0	
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	45 13 11 $\frac{1}{2}$		By Cash in hand	55 11 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
		<u>340 6 11 $\frac{1}{2}$</u>			<u>340 6 11 $\frac{1}{2}$</u>

The

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas* 1756,
to *Michaelmas* 1757.

To annual Sub- scriptions re- ceived	£. s. d.	270 0 0	By fundry Pay- ments for Bi- bles, Testa- ments, and other Books	£. s. d.	307 7 0
To occasional Gifts, &c.	41 15 6		By incidental Expences	25 16 3	
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	55 11 11 ½		By Cash in Hand	34 4 2 ½	
	<u>367 7 5 ½</u>			<u>367 7 5 ½</u>	

The State of the Account from *Michaelmas* 1757, to
Midsummer 1758. (three Quarters of a Year only.)

To anual Sub- scriptions re- ceived, 3 qrs.	£. s. d.	231 13 9	By fundry Pay- ments for Bi- bles, Testa- ments, and other Books	£. s. d.	273 11 3
To occasional Gifts, &c.	75 18 0		By incidental Expences	26 10 5	
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	34 4 3		By Cash in Hand	41 14 4	
	<u>341 16 0</u>			<u>341 16 0</u>	

The State of the Account from *Midsummer* 1758,
to *Midsummer* 1759.

To annual Sub- scriptions re- ceived	£. s. d.	328 6 3	By fundry Pay- ments for Bi- bles, Testa- ments, and other Books	£. s. d.	443 13 9
To occasional Gifts, &c.	146 13 11		By incidental Expences	36 3 7	
To the Ballance of last Year's Account	41 14 4		By Cash in Hand	47 6 2	
To Arrears re- ceived of last Year	10 9 0			<u>527 3 6</u>	
	<u>527 3 6</u>				

The proper Form for a Donation to the Society by Will.

ITEM, I A. B do hereby give and bequeath the Sum of £
unto the Treasurer and Secretary for the
Time being, of a voluntary Society commonly called or known by the
Name of The Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge
among the Poor (which Society now usually meet, or did lately
meet at Haberdasher's-Hall in London,) the same to be paid
within Months next after my
Decease, and to be applied to the Uses and Purposes of that
Society.



572

Extracts of LETTERS

From some of the Ministers, in the Country, who have received Books from the SOCIETY.

*Glamorgan-
shire.*

REverend Mr. DAVIES. I have the pleasure to inform the Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor, That, by the blessing of GOD, many souls that lived in darkness are enlightened, quickened and nourished in divine and holy conversation in our parts, especially by *Reading* that valuable book of Mr. *Showers's*, called, *Serious Reflections on Time and Eternity*.—Some have received more delight in Mr. *Janevay's Token for Children*, than if they had much gold and silver.—Dr. *Watts's Songs* have been very profitable to win the affections of many poor children heaven-ward.

The great kindness of bestowing such *good books* upon my poor christian friends obliges me to return the Religious Society my most humble thanks, which has been an encouragement to me, and I hope for the benefit of many hundred souls.—I heartily wish I had the favour of more.

Virginia.

Rev. Mr. TODD, I beg leave to inform you that I have with unspeakable pleasure and satisfaction distributed the books I had the happiness to receive from that Charitable Society, which I am persuaded is approved of GOD, and is inexpressibly dear to multitudes in this distant and guilty land. The blessing of many ready to perish I doubt not will rest upon the good benefactors. With uncommon eagerness, multitudes of negroes and white people flocked to my house to get books, upon the first notice of my having them to dispose of. They received them with the utmost thankfulness, and with serious promises religiously to improve them.—Among
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the poor slaves there is a great alteration for the better ; for the sacred hours of the Sabbath that used to be spent in frolicking, dancing, and other prophane courses, are now employed in attending upon public ordinances, in learning to read at home, or in praying together, and singing the praises of GOD and the Lamb—A delightful change !

Rev. Mr. STRETCH. I have received the *Campden,*
books, which I have distributed, and do in the *Gloucestershire.*
name of many pious poor, as well as others,
return you sincere and hearty thanks for them.
They were accepted with unaffected joy by many, and I have reason to believe will be well improved. I am certain they have been read by many with great pleasure, and several adult persons are learning to read upon the promise that I will supply them with bibles and other good books.—Ignorance and error are prevalent in this part of the country, which makes the distributing such well-chosen books among the poorer sort of people and their children, a real kindness to their souls, and a very promising design to render the rising generation wiser and better.

Permit me to inform you that young and old are daily coming to me to supply them with books, and making fair promises that they will read and regard them. They assure me they have not a Bible in their families, nor have they had one for many years, and are really unable to procure one; which makes me plead with you the more earnestly that you will enable me to supply their deplorable wants.

Rev. Mr. HESKETH. I received a very seasonable and acceptable present of Bibles, Testaments, and other good books, from the Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor, for which I make my grateful acknowledgements.—The good effects of my last distribution I see every Lord's-Day; for several of the poor, more constantly attend public worship,

Northbournam,
Yorkshire.

who were before ignorant, and express a concern for their salvation.

*Whitworth,
Lancashire.*

Rev. Mr. BURGESS. The parcel of books came safe to hand, and I do verily believe that this choice treasure will be disposed of in such manner as will effectually answer the pious and beneficent designs of the charitable Donors.—I plainly perceive that they answer a very valuable end, as thereby I am enabled to animate and encourage my catechumens in their endeavours with choice Book rewards.—Moreover as they are New Books, and but small volumes, several ignorant and careless persons are hereby inticed and drawn on into a course of reading, who perhaps seldom looked into any religious Book, except the Bible, before.

I cannot but observe a great deal of Catholicism, not only in persons of such different communions uniting together in this noble design; but also in the very Books which they distribute; which contain the most substantial, vital, and evangelical parts of religion, without mixture of those obscure and dubious points which have too often destroyed Christian Charity.

Edinburgh.

Mr. ROBERT WALKER.—As secretary to the *Edinburgh* society, I am directed to inform you, that the agreeable success of your society for promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor, has induced a number of gentlemen in this city to attempt something of the same nature, and much on the same plan.—As our design owes its rise to the example of the *London* society, it becomes our unquestionable duty to give you the pleasure of acknowledging it; and I must also add, That since our commencement, the people of *Glasgow* have erected another of the same kind; which we hope will help to strengthen the general design.

Surely no period of time ever required the friends of religion, who have such a Master, such a cause, such promises of assistance, and such glorious prospects set before them, to be more united

united and active in using all means, for resisting that torrent of iniquity which seems to overflow the land, and threaten destruction.

Rev. Mr. DARRACOTT.——“The books *Wellington, Somersetshire*, you sent me were a seasonable and acceptable present.——To my knowledge, *many* have by this means been induced to read, and to attend public worship, who were before ignorant to the greatest degree.——*Several* are hereby brought to a serious concern about their salvation——And some have discovered genuine marks of a saving change wrought in them.

I know not a book that has been more blessed than the *Compassionate Address to the Christian World*, or that is so fit to be the first book to be put into the hands of the Ignorant and Careless; it being so levelled to the meanest capacity, and is wrote in so moving a strain as generally to awaken the most obdurate heart.”

Rev. Mr. HUTSON.——“The *books* you *South Carolina*, were pleased to put into my hands for the benefit of the poor I have distributed among them——The society of negroes in a full assembly desired I would return their thanks to those good people by whom they were sent, and I am perswaded our Lord Jesus Christ will recompence this service and labour of love, in the great day, as done unto himself.—The poor negroes are very thankful to GOD that He should have thoughts of mercy to them, and that the people of GOD should love them so as to send them *books*. They come from many plantations to hear me, and are very desirous to be taught the knowledge of the blessed JESUS. I have great reason to bless and praise GOD, that this Society was set up, which I hope will be for GOD's Glory, and for his peoples good.”

Rev. Mr. WOOD.——“I have received *Norwich*, from the Society for promoting Religious Knowledge, a parcel of books, for which acceptable and seasonable present I make my grateful acknowledgements.——I am greatly charmed with
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the manner in which the Society proceed; rejoice to find that their numbers increase, and with all my heart am pleased and thankful to see so many pious ministers and christians, though in some lesser matters of differing opinions, *agreeing thus harmoniously* in the grand design of doing a real and substantial good to the souls of men, and to those who have not the means of procuring these advantages for themselves, THE POOR; this makes the kindness the greater.—And it is with equal pleasure I observe what an happy and wise provision the Society makes in the *choice of books*, for storing the mind with the most useful knowledge, awakening the consciences of sinners, and edifying the christian, in faith, hope, and holiness.

Horningham.

Rev. Mr. DRIVER.——“ I received your kindness to the poor amongst us, in a valuable present of *Bibles, Testaments, and other Books*, for which I humbly thank you, and can assure you they were accepted with expressions importing a deep sense of GOD's goodness, and your generosity; and I would hope have been of service to us already.—I can assure you it has much refreshed my soul, when I considered your gift as from a society of persons, though *differently denominated*, yet *striving together* for the faith of the Gospel; which makes me think the Lord is with you, and I hope his blessing will crown your attempts.

Maidstone.

Rev. Mr. JENKINS.——The books sent me by the Society have been received with joy and thankfulness, which gives me great ground to hope they will be very useful in promoting the good intentions of the Society. Nay I have already reason to think that the *Token for Children* has been made useful to some young persons in this place. And I doubt not but that from hence and many other places both in *Europe* and *America* the blessing of many ready to perish for lack of Divine Knowledge, will come on a Society so distinguished and generous.

Rev.

Rev. Mr. DAVIDSON. — I cannot omit *Braintree*. informing you that one of the books you sent me, viz. *Shower on Time and Eternity*, I have carefully perused to my great satisfaction and edification. — It is written in such a favourable and spiritual manner, and at the same time with so much true judgment, that I think must render it highly agreeable to the taste and experience of serious christians of every denomination. I heartily wish the book was better known and more perused both by ministers and private christians. Every thing that has a tendency to lead our minds from the mean and trifling things of time and sense, and to the serious contemplation and belief of the great things of eternity should be welcomed and prized by us.

Rev. Mr. TOMS. — I very thankfully own *Hadleigh*. the receipt of the books sent from the Society, and have comfortable evidence of the great excellence and importance of this charity, and could give you instances of old and young impressed by what they have read. — A child about ten years of age, in an illness that confined him, read the *Token for Children* two or three times over, complained of hardness of heart, and a fight and sense of sin, expressed a hope in the mercy of GOD through our Lord Jesus; spoke many instructive things, exhorted his parents and brethren for the good of their souls, and the last sabbath I preached a sermon occasioned by his death. *Allein's Alarm* is very much valued. — An aged man awakened to a great concern for his soul, had it read over twice to him. — An aged and poor person came to me last week that had a few days before received the *Compassionate Address to the Christian World*, who spoke of it with the highest esteem, and taking it out of his pocket said, I would not take a golden guinea for this book. I could mention other encouragements respecting some other books, but shall close with observing, that if there was less evidence of their success than there is, yet the Society's design is so truly religious that it may well be said, — Be ye strong

strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak ;
for your work shall be rewarded.

Virginia.

The Rev. Mr. DAVIES. Heaven has once more conducted to my hands the large collection of Books from the Society, and they have already been distributed in various parts of the country. I embrace this opportunity to renew my grateful acknowledgements to those generous friends of religion and human nature, who have done me the honour of making me their almoner. And could they observe the natural and striking actions of gratitude in the language, the looks, the gestures of their poor unpolished beneficiaries, they would be immediately convinced, as I have been, they have never done an Act of Charity, that was requited with more sincere and ardent gratitude on the part of the receivers.

I have the pleasure of hearing the good effects of this Charity upon sundry persons in various parts. And I have myself within these two months received two new communicants, who both had their serious impressions from that pungent little piece, *The Compassionate Address to the Christian World*. I frankly own that in more instances than these. God has, as it were, taken the work out of my hands, and blest the endeavours of good men 4000 miles off for the conversion of sinners, while my feeble addresses, though *viva voce* had little effect.

F I N I S.